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<b>To:</b> Examiner, Timothy L. Lee	<b>Fax No.:</b> 1-703-872-9306 <b>Phone No.:</b>
<b>Date:</b> January 20, 2004	<b>Pages:</b> 7 (including this sheet)
<b>From:</b> Nicole Teitler Cave Reg. No. 54,021	<b>Sender's Phone No.:</b> 512-338-6300 <b>Sender's Fax No.:</b> 512-338-6301

**REGARDING:**

<b>Title:</b> LEAST CHOICE FIRST ARBITER	
<b>Application No.:</b> 09/540,729	<b>Filed:</b> March 31, 2000
<b>Examiner:</b> Timothy L. Lee	<b>Group Art Unit:</b> 2662
<b>Atty. Docket No.:</b> 004-4282	<b>Confirmation No.:</b> 1942

**ATTACHED HERETO:**

- (1) Transmittal Sheet (1 page)
- (2) Response to Final Office Action (5 pages)

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*Nicole Teitler Cave* 1/20/04  
Nicole Teitler Cave Date

Respectfully submitted,

*Nicole Teitler Cave*

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January 20, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Applicant: Nils Gura, et al.  
Title: LEAST CHOICE FIRST ARBITER  
Application No.: 09/540,729 Filed: March 31, 2000  
Examiner: Timothy L. Lee Group Art Unit: 2662  
Atty. Docket No.: 004-4282 Conf. No.: 1942

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following document(s) in the above-identified application:

- (1) Response to Final Office Action (5 page(s))
- (2) This Transmittal Letter (1 page)

## Fees:

n/a	\$0.00
n/a	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL FEE:</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>

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Nicole Teitler Cave Date

Respectfully submitted,

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**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

This paper is responsive to the final Office action dated November 19, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire February 19, 2004. As the two month period from the final rejection falls on a Federal holiday, the time for replying within the two month period is extended until Tuesday, January 20, 2004. In light of the Remarks herein, further examination is requested.